



PATENT

#11
P. Pollet
11/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
LUC M. NICOLAI

CASE NO.: **IM-85F3 US PCT**

APPLICATION NO.: **10/018,628**

CONFIRMATION NO.: **5194**

GROUP ART UNIT: **3654**

EXAMINER: **JOHN M. JILLIONS**

FILED: **APRIL 16, 2002**

FOR: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR WINDING OF WEBS**

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office information listed on the enclosed PTO/SB/08A . A copy of the information is also enclosed.

An issue is present whether the document from the Web Handling Research Center is applicable in examination of this patent application under the provisions of 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103. Attached is a note of an informal communication by telephone in the corresponding Patent Cooperation Treaty application PCT/ED00/65436. The note records a conversation of the authorized FPO officer (Mr. Pollet) with applicants representative (Mr. Pochart) as follows:

The authorized officer Mr. Didier Pollet called the representative Mr. Francois Pochart explaining that the closest prior art document (i.e. 'Air Entrainment with a Forced-Loaded Nip Roller', Y. Bae Chang, F. W. Chambers, J. J. Shelton, Web Handling Research Center, Oklahoma State University, 05/1994) cited in the description on page 1, l. 21, could not be retrieved by the EPO search division. Apparently, according to the Web Handling Research Center (contact Mr. Y. Bae Chang), this document is proprietary information and hence not public.

This was a surprise to the representative, who promised to investigate the matter further.

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If possible, a copy of the document was asked.

Attached is a copy of the PCT correspondence.

Based on the contents of this note, the document is stated to be "proprietary information and hence not public". Accordingly, it is believed that this document is not available under the provisions of 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103. This document is provided in examination of this patent application due to the present fact situation with the document cited in the Background of the Invention.

Should any fee be required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: October 31, 2003
Enclosures